



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

KS03:075

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, September 16, 2003

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Shelley Issues Continuing Directive to Counties to Move Forward with Election Planning

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today informed county elections officials to continue to prepare for the October 7 election.

In light of today's order by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals seeking new legal briefs in the case and indefinitely extending the stay issued yesterday by a three judge panel, Shelley said county officials should move forward with all election planning.

The secretary's memo to county officials is attached.

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September 16, 2003

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters (03256)

FROM:

KEVIN SHELLEY
Secretary of State

SUBJECT: TODAY'S COURT ORDER

As you know by now, this afternoon the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ordered all parties in the case of *Southwest Voter Registration Education Project et al ACLU v. Shelley* to submit briefs on the issue of whether the Court should rehear the case *en banc* (meaning, the full court rather than a three judge panel). This office will comply with that order. I have directed our attorneys to work with the Attorney General's office to comply with the submission of briefs by 2:00 p.m. tomorrow (Wednesday).

The 9th Circuit Court's order indefinitely extends the stay issued yesterday by the three judge panel.

As such, it continues to remain important that all preparations for the October 7th election should continue forward until we hear otherwise. You should continue to mail out absentee ballots, train pollworkers, secure polling places, and otherwise prepare for the election.